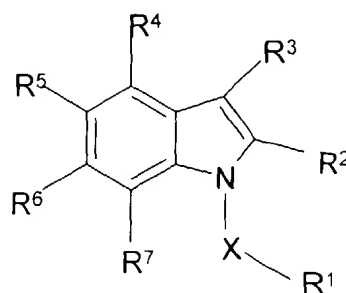


In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I)

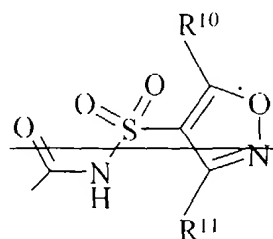


(I)

X is CH₂ or SO₂

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl ring;

R² is carboxy, cyano, -C(O)CH₂OH, -CONHR⁸, -SO₂NHR⁹, tetrazol-5-yl, or SO₃H, or a group of formula (VI)



(VI)

where R⁸ is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, cyano, hydroxy, -SO₂R¹² where R¹² is alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or haloalkyl, or R⁸ is a group -(CH(R¹³))_r-COOH where r is an integer of 1-3 and each R¹³ group is independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl; R⁹ is hydrogen, alkyl, optionally substituted aryl such as optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted heteroaryl such as 5 or 6 membered heteroaryl groups, or a group COR¹⁴ where R¹⁴ is alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or haloalkyl; R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl, particularly C₁₋₄ alkyl;

R³ is hydrogen, a functional group, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heterocycl-

optionally substituted alkoxy, optionally substituted aralkyl, optionally substituted aralkyloxy, or optionally substituted cycloalkyl;

R^4 is a group NHCOR^{15} , or $\text{NHISO}_2\text{R}^{15}$ ~~or~~ $\text{OCONR}^{16}\text{R}^{17}$ where R^{15} is optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl and R^{16} and R^{17} ~~are independently selected from hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl and optionally substituted heteroaryl, with the proviso that at least one of R^{16} or R^{17} is other than hydrogen, or R^{16} and R^{17} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms;~~ and

R^5 , R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, a functional group or an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group ~~groups or optionally substituted heterocyclic groups;~~

and further provided that when R^4 is a group NHCOR^{15} , R^{15} is substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein a group R^{15} , ~~R^{16} and R^{17}~~ as they appear as it appears in the definition of R^4 , is substituted by at least one functional group, or an aryl or heterocyclyl group ~~groups~~, either of which may themselves be substituted by one or more functional groups or further aryl or heterocyclyl groups.

3. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^4 is a group NHCOR^{15} ~~or~~ $\text{NHISO}_2\text{R}^{15}$ and R^{15} is a substituted alkyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclyl substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted phenyl group.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 3 wherein R^{15} is alkyl substituted by a group of formula $\text{NR}^{19}\text{R}^{20}$ where R^{19} and R^{20} are independently selected from hydrogen or optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, or R^{19} and R^{20} together form an optionally substituted ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms such as $\text{S}(\text{O})_m$, oxygen and nitrogen, n is an integer of 1 or 2, and m is 1 or 2.

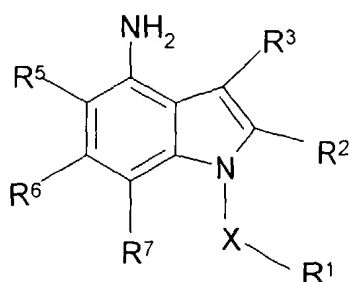
5. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 where R^2 is carboxy.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^1 is 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 3-fluoro-4-chlorophenyl, 3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl or 2,3-dichloropyrid-5-yl.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 where X is CH_2 .

8. (currently amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1 which process comprises ~~either~~

(a) ~~where R^4 is $\text{NHCO}R^{15}$ or $\text{NH}\text{SO}_2R^{15}$~~ ; reacting a compound of formula (VII)



(VII)

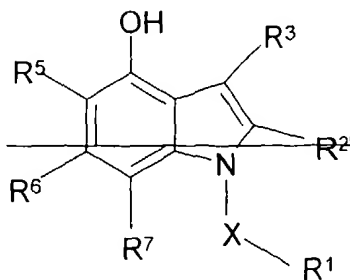
where X, R^1 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 are as defined in claim 1, and R^2 is a group R^2 as defined in relation to formula (I) or a protected form thereof, with a compound of formula (VIII)



(VIII)

where Z is a leaving group and R^{22} is a group $\text{COR}^{15'}$ or $\text{SO}_2R^{15'}$ where $R^{15'}$ is group R^{15} as defined in relation to formula (I) or a precursor thereof;

~~or (b) where R^4 is a group $\text{OCONR}^{16}R^{17}$~~ ; reacting a compound of formula (VIIA)



(VIA)

where ~~X, R²¹, R¹, R³, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷~~ are as defined claim 1 and R² is a group R² as defined in claim 1 or a protected form thereof, with a compound of formula (VIA)



(VIA)

where ~~Z, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷~~ are as defined above;

and thereafter if desired or necessary:

- (i) converting a precursor group R^{15'} to a group R¹⁵ and/or converting a group R¹⁵ to a different such group; and
- (ii) deprotecting a group R^{2'} to a group R².

9. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (currently amended) A method for antagonizing an MCP-1 (Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1) or RANTES (Regulated upon Activation, Normal T-cell Expressed and Secreted) mediated effect in a warm blooded animal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said animal an effective amount of aA compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof, for use in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment of disease mediated by monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 or RANTES (Regulated upon Activation, Normal T-cell Expressed and Secreted), such as inflammatory disease.

11. (new) A method for treating inflammation in a warm blooded animal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or an *in vivo* hydrolysable ester thereof.